(c) As regards programme implementation of official language, the orders and instructions issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Official Language) are followed by Ministry of Railways, wherever applicable.

Proposals of sub-committee on bridges

2175. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the main proposals of the sub-committee on rebuilding of old railways bridges; and

(b) whether any of those proposals have been accepted by the Railways, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The main recommendations of the Sub-Committee were regarding taking up of Rehabilitation of certain type of bridges like Cast Iron Pile, Early Steel etc. on programmed basis, to lay down schedule of Inspection of certain type of bridges like Early Steel, Distressed bridges etc, to lay down the definition and classification of distressed bridges.

(b) These recommendations were noted and accepted and rehabilitation of bridges was taken up as per availability of funds which has picked up after sanction of Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF). The increased frequency of inspection of certain type of bridge e.g. Early Steel Bridge, Distressed Bridge etc. was laid down in 1989 and the categorization of Distressed bridges is being done as per recommendation of the Sub-Committee.

Train from Bhubaneswar to Bhopal

2176. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are aware that there is no direct train available from Bhubaneswar to Bhopal despite commissioning of Talcher-Sambalpur BG Link which has reduced the distance considerably;

(b) if so, whether Railways propose to extend Bilaspur Bhopal Express upto Bhubaneswar *via* Sambalpur and Talcher keeping in view the popular demand;